

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

February 10, 2020

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi
H-232 The Capitol

Republican Leader Kevin McCarthy
H-204 The Capitol

Dear Speaker Pelosi and Leader McCarthy:

As members of the GOP Doctors Caucus, we strongly support Congress addressing the issue of surprise medical billing in a way that protects patients and resolves the resulting bill in the fairest way possible to providers, insurers and employers.

While there are several thoughtful approaches to addressing this issue, we believe the framework introduced by Chairman Neal and Ranking Member Brady in the Ways and Means Committee is the best approach to ensuring a fair, balanced solution. We are particularly supportive of their decision to use independent dispute resolution (IDR) to negotiate the resulting payment. IDR is fair to both providers and payers, and the data backs this up. According to a May 2019 study from Georgetown University Health Policy Institute Center on Health Insurance Reforms, as of October 25, 2018, when the New York state IDR process was utilized, 618 decisions favored the health plan while 561 favored the provider.¹ It is clear the results are balanced and there is no correlation between IDR utilization and insurance premium increases over that timeframe.

While no solution is perfect, the Ways and Means framework is the best approach to this issue and a step in the right direction. We look forward to working with you and the relevant committees to ensure a fair solution reaches the president's desk and is signed into law.

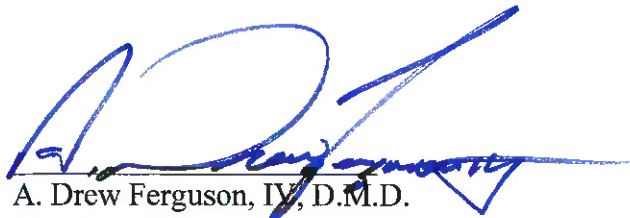
Sincerely,



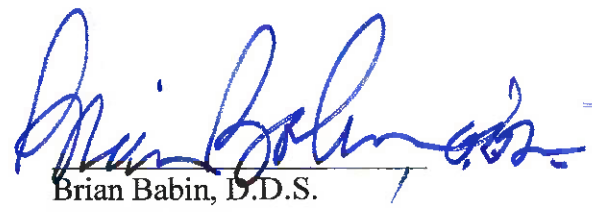
David P. Roe, M.D.
Member of Congress



Brad Wenstrup, D.P.M.
Member of Congress



A. Drew Ferguson, IV, D.M.D.
Member of Congress



Brian Babin, D.D.S.
Member of Congress

¹ New York's 2014 Law to Protect Consumers from Surprise Out-of-Network Bills Mostly Working as Intended: Results of a Case Study, <https://georgetown.app.box.com/s/6onkj1jaiy3f1618iy7j0gpzdoew2zu9>

CC: Chairman Neal and Ranking Member Brady – Committee on Ways and Means

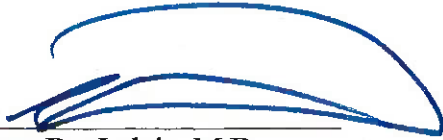
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Ralph Abraham, M.D.
Member of Congress



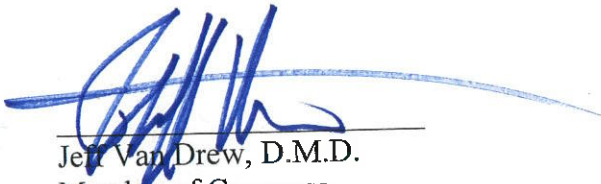
Mark Green, M.D.
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